

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/783,183

Examiner

HIEN N. NGUYEN

Applicant(s)

SEDLAK, HOLGER

Art Unit

2824

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed on 7/29/09.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

RICHARD T. ELMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

4/1/10

DETAILED ACTION

1. The drawings filed on **7/29/09** have been approved.
2. The **new Oath/declaration** has been received.
3. The proper consent of the application has been filed on 7/29/09.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. **Claims 1-18 are allowed.**
5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding independent claim 1, the prior arts of record do not disclose or suggest a read-only having a configuration as recited in claim 1, in toto and particularly in conjunction with other limitations, including a plurality of memory cells connected to word lines, bit lines and source lines, said memory cells divided into a multiplicity of memory cell groups, each of said memory cell groups having a separate common source line, said memory cell groups forming a memory cell array and connecting devices connected between said bit lines of said memory cells of said memory cell groups and said common data output lines for outputting the data contents stored in said memory cells, each of said connecting devices for putting a potential that is on one of said bit lines onto one of said common data output lines at the beginning of a read cycle while said one bit line is discharging and for subsequently actively driving said one bit line.

Claims 2-17 depend on 1.

Regarding independent claim 18, the prior arts of record do not disclose or suggest a configuration for a memory as recited in claim 18, in toto and particularly in conjunction with other limitations, including switches connected to a pre-charge line, said switches for switching said bus line to a first potential and said bit line to a second potential and a further switch connected to said bit line for switching said bit line to a source line at said first potential and for switching said bus line to said second potential, when said bit line has been connected to the source line at said first potential.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HIEN N. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-1879. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM..

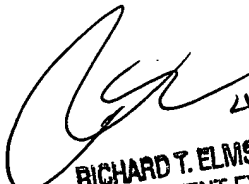
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Elms can be reached on (571) 272-1869. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

HN

January 15, 2010

 4/1/10
RICHARD T. ELMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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